

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 HONG K 08773 01 OF 02 020311Z

64/51

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 SAJ-01 OMB-01 NIC-01 CU-04 ACDA-19

RSR-01 EB-11 AGR-20 COME-00 TRSE-00 (ADP) W

----- 121358

O R 011130Z SEP 73

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8060

INFO USLO PEKING PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

DIA

DA

CINCPACAF

CINCPACFLT

CINCUSARPAC

COMUSTDC

CG US FORCES KOREA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 HONG KONG 8773

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

DIA FOR DI4

DA FOR DAMI-FIE

E O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR VARIOUS GARBLED PORTIONS THROUGHOUT

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT CH

SUBJ: CHOU'S POLITICAL REPORT TO TENTH PARTY CONGRESS: DOMESTIC
ASPECTS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 HONG K 08773 01 OF 02 020311Z

SUMMARY: DOMESTIC ASPECTS OF CHOU'S POLITICAL REPORT TO THE TENTH CONGRESS MAKE THE EVENT APPEAR AS AN ADDENDUM TO THE NINTH CONGRESS. CHOU UPHOLDS THE LINE OF THE NINTH AND SEPARATES IT FROM LIN PIAO. HE AVOIDS DISCUSSING THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION IN A WAY WHICH INDICATES THAT IT IS STILL CONTROVERSIAL, BUT INVEIGHS AGAINST SHARP POLITICAL SWINGS, IMPLICITLY REMINDING OTHERS THAT HE HAS STOOD AGAINST SUCH TIDES IN THE PAST. NO NEW DETAILS OF THE DOMESTIC LINE ARE REVEALED AND CHOU STRADDLES THE FENCE IN GIVING MASS POLITICS PRIMACY, WHILE CALLING FOR PLANS AND DISCIPLINE TO HARNESS IT. THE WATCHWORD APPEARS TO BE CONCERN AGAINST FURTHER LIN-TYPE CONSPIRACIES AND INTRIGUES, AND CADRE ARE ALSO WARNED THAT THEIR STYLE OF WORK IS UNDER CRITICAL SCRUTINY. THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS IS TO BE CONVENED SOON. END SUMMARY

1. IN ITS DOMESTIC ASPECTS, PREMEIR CHOU'S POLITICAL REPORT TO THE TENTH PARTY CONGRESS, RELEASED BY NCNA AUGUST 31, CASTS THE MEETING IN THE LIGHT OF AN ADDENDUM TO THE NINTH CONGRESS. AND THIS PERSPECTIVE WOULD BE COMPATIBLE WITH THE WAY--SWIFT AND SHORT--IN WHICH THE TENTH CONGRESS WAS CONDUCTED. VIEWED IN THIS PERSPECTIVE, CHOU'S REPORT ENDORSES THE DOMESTIC LINE OF THE NINTH CONGRESS, BUT OMITTS TO CLARIFY IT OR GIVE ANY CLEAR INDICATION OF HOW THAT LINE CAN BE EXPECTED TO DEVELOP IN SPECIFIC AREAS AND ON SPECIFIC PROBLEMS INSTEAD, HE MAKES CLEAR THAT POLITICAL STRUGGLES, INCLUDING CONTENTION FOR LEADERSHIP, WILL CONTINUE, AND HE ALLUDES TO CERTAIN OF THE BROAD ISSUES UNDER DEBATE.

2. MOST STRIKING IN CHOU'S DISCUSSION OF THE STRUGGLE AGAINST LIN PIAO IS HIS TOTAL AVOIDANCE OF THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION PHASE. THE CONTINUING UNSETTLED DISPUTE AND DEEP SENSITIVITY OVER THIS SUBJECT IS DOUBTLESS IN CHOU'S MIND WHEN HE SAYS THAT "THE COURSE OF THE STRUGGLE AGAINST LIN IS LAREADY KNOWN AND "THERE IS NOT NEED TO DWELL ON IT HERE." THE LAST TIME THIS RHETORICAL DEVICE WAS USED WAS IN THE JULY 1, 1971 EDITORIAL WHEN IT WAS APPLIED, ARCHLY AND OMINOUSLY IN VIEW OF SUBSEQUENT EVENTS, TO LIN'S REPORT ON THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION. WE SPECULATE THAT CHOU IS CRAFTILY AVOIDING CURRENTLY UNMENTIONABLE CONTROVERSY OVER WHO WAS AT FAULT IN THE CULTURAL REVOLUTION, WHILE LEAVING THE DOOR OPEN FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS.

3. IN DEALING WITH LIN, CHOU IS AT PAINS TO SEPARATE HIM FROM THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 HONG K 08773 01 OF 02 020311Z

LINE OF THE NINTH CONGRESS. LIN IS DESCRIBED AS HAVING FAILED ALONG WITH CHEN PO-TA IN AN ATTEMPT TO DOMINATE THAT CONGRESS. IN SPITE OF THIS FAILURE AND REPEATED REBUKES AND ADMONITIONS, THEY ALLEGEDLY WENT ON TO PLOT A COUP (SAID TO HAVE BEEN ABORTIVELY LAUNCHED SEPTEMEBER 8) AND TO ATTEMPT THE ASSASSINATION OF MAO AND THE SETTING UP OF A RIVAL CONTRAL COMMITTEE. CHOU CLAIMS THAT LIN'S GROUP WAS "TINY" AND "ISOLATED," BUT ALLOWS THAT ITS EFFORTS "FOR A TIME IMPAIRED" THE "WORKING STYLE" DESIRED BY THE REGIME. (CHOU'S

REMARKS ON LIN'S SOVIET LEANINGS ARE TREATED IN A SEPTEL ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS ASPECTS OF THE REPORT.)

4. CHOU STATES THAT THE LIN CLIQUE HAS BEEN SHATTERED, BUT HE LATER WARMS THAT MANY SIMILAR STRUGGLES, AND NEW LIN PIAO'S AND OTHER TYPES OF VILLAINS, CAN BE EXPECTED TO APPEAR AGAIN, AND HE CALLS FOR MENTAL PREPARATIONS TO MEET THIS. ONE INDICATION THAT CHOU IS STILL PREOCCUPIED WITH SECRET PLOTS AND INTRIGUES IS HIS INVOCATION OF MAO'S DICTUM "PRACTICE MARXISM, AND NOT REVISIONISM-UNITE AND DON'T SPLIT-BE OPEN AND ABOVEBOARD AND DON'T INTRIGUE AND CONSPIRE," AS THE PRESENT CRITERION FOR CORRECTNESS". THIS, AS MUCH AS ANYTHING, EMERGES AS THE WATCHWORD COMING OUT OF THE TENTH CONGRESS.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

MRN: 1973HONG K008773 SEGMENT NUMBER: 000002 ERROR READING TEXT INDEX FILE; TELEGRAM TEXT FOR THIS SEGMENT IS UNAVAILABLE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973HONGK08773
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS OSBORN
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730958/aaaabqrm.tel
Line Count: 132
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 23 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23-Jul-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <09-Nov-2001 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CHOU'S POLITICAL REPORT TO TENTH PARTY CONGRESS: DOMESTIC ASPECTS
TAGS: PINT, CH
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005